



SPANISH

Lesson Summary

UNIT 4

Situations

Lesson

1

Specific Requirements of a Situation

INTRODUCTION

You are required to master two types of situations; the directed situation which requires a single sentence written response and the oral situation which requires two short responses. The aim of the situation is to allow you to show to what extent you are able **use the Spanish you learn for everyday functioning.**

GETTING STARTED

You will begin by identifying the specific requirements of some situations.

DIRECTED SITUATIONS

Directed situations may be notes, text messages, e-mail, labels, signs, a line for regular mail, cards or advertisements, rules, captions, comments etc.

The answers are provided to allow you to get a clear idea of possible requirements of situations. Read the situations and the four sample responses given. Consider which response you like most and discuss it with your tutor after reading the discussion box at the end of the lesson summary

Situation One:

You are meeting at the airport, your aunt whom you have not seen since you were a child. Your mother sends her a description of you in an e-mail. Write that description.

Answer 1: Juana es muy alta y esbelta como su papa y tiene mis ojos verdes y mi nariz pequeño.

Answer 2: Me parece mucho con sus pequeños ojos negros y su cara redonda pero es muy alta y delgada.

Answer 3: Es baja, delgada y tiene el pelo corto y negro y la nariz grande.

Answer4: Juana lleva un jean y la camisa de la universidad y es alta y rubia con la nariz larga.

DESCRIPTION

Situation Two:

You are the secretary of a club. On your way to a club meeting you receive a text message asking you to say the opening prayer. Write that message.

Answer 1: Carlos, te invito decir la oración al comenzar la reunión.

Answer 2: Carlos, ¿puedes comenzar la reunión con una oración por favor?

Answer3: Carlos, el presidente quiere que digas la oración al comenzar la reunión por favor.

Answer4: Carlos, ¿es posible que digas la oración al comenzar la reunión por favor?

REQUESTING A FAVOUR

Are you having difficulty with the Spanish used in the responses? **You have help.** Refer to your text book and look at descriptive words and phrases. A short list is also provided at the end of this summary. Of course your tutor will also explain your difficult areas.

ORAL SITUATIONS

Oral situations are short bits of conversation that may occur in any everyday context.

Answers are again provided. **This time you will notice the more conversational tone and the link between the two parts.**

Situation Three:

You are visiting a Spanish speaking country where you meet your favourite footballer and excitedly introduce yourself to him.

- a) What does he say in response?**
- b) What do you say to request his autograph?**

Answer 1) a) Mucho gusto en conocerle
b) ¿Puedo obtener su autógrafo por favor?

Answer 2) a) Encantado señorita.
b) Puede firmar mi jersey por favor?

MEETING PEOPLE/ REQUESTING

Situation Four:

Someone calls your house in error asking for Pepe Gonzales.

- c) What do you say in response?**
- d) What do you say when he insists on the name and number?**

Answer 1) a) lo siento señor, número equivocado.
b) Pero, no tenemos un Gonzales aquí

Answer 2) a) Hay un error señor; Pepe no vive aquí.
b) Usted tiene un número equivocado.

ANSWERING THE PHONE

You will then decide which your preferred answer for each situation is.

DISCUSSION

It is important to explore several possibilities before deciding upon your response to situations.. Sometimes you may not find the word you are looking for. Another response may then be chosen. But never resort to English. A less direct response may be more acceptable.

In **situation One**, answer three is the simplest however answers one and two provide information about who Juana (you) resembles and answer four says what she will be wearing. Such details are very useful to her aunt.

If unsure about stating resemblance or what Juana will be wearing, stick to answer three. It is better to be correct once **the answer responds to the situation reasonably well.**

CONCLUSION

You would have observed that in all four situations, the answers were very specific. In the next lesson you will get the opportunity to examine many more specific language requirements which are called **functions**. **Have fun with language functions in lesson two!**

!Adelante a lección cinco!



